



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

SB2251

Introduced 2/26/2021, by Sen. Sue Rezin

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 2805/2.01c

Amends the Department of Veterans' Affairs Act. Defines "outbreak". Provides that if a Veterans Home administrator or a member of the administrative staff is notified that an outbreak has occurred, the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Department of Public Health shall conduct an onsite visit to assess the status of the spread and determine if any additional actions can be taken to lessen exposure to the disease. Provides that the Department of Veterans' Affairs and Department of Public Health are to conduct the site visit as soon as practical, but in no event shall the visit be delayed later than the end of the next business day. Requires the Department of Veterans' Affairs to post specific information on its website upon conducting a site visit.

LRB102 15360 RAM 20720 b

1 AN ACT concerning veterans.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Department of Veterans' Affairs Act is
5 amended by changing Section 2.01c as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 2805/2.01c)

7 Sec. 2.01c. Veterans Home; notice of infectious disease.

8 (a) As used in this Section, "infectious disease" means
9 any disease caused by a living organism or other pathogen,
10 including a fungus, bacteria, parasite, protozoan, prion, or
11 virus, that has a history of or potential for a significant
12 mortality rate among elderly or vulnerable populations,
13 including, but not limited to, strains of influenza,
14 Legionnaires' disease, coronavirus and pneumonia.

15 (a-1) As used in this Section, "outbreak" means 2 or more
16 individuals, employees, staff, or residents living within or
17 employed by the Veterans Home contracting an infectious
18 disease within 48 hours of the first diagnosis.

19 (b) If a Veterans Home administrator or a member of the
20 administrative staff is notified that, within one month or
21 less, 2 or more persons residing within the Veterans Home are
22 diagnosed with an infectious disease by a physician licensed
23 to practice medicine in all its branches; a hospital licensed

1 under the Hospital Licensing Act or organized under the
2 University of Illinois Hospital Act; a long-term care facility
3 licensed under the Nursing Home Care Act; a freestanding
4 emergency center licensed under the Emergency Medical Services
5 (EMS) Systems Act; a local health department; or any other
6 State agency or government entity, then, within 24 hours after
7 the facility is notified of the second diagnosis, the Veterans
8 Home must:

9 (1) provide a written notification of the incidence of
10 the infectious disease to each resident of the facility
11 and the resident's emergency contact or next of kin;

12 (2) post a notification of the incidence of the
13 infectious disease in a conspicuous place near the main
14 entrance to the Veterans Home; and

15 (3) provide a written notification to the Department
16 of Veterans' Affairs and the Department of Public Health
17 of the incidence of the infectious disease and of
18 compliance with the written notification requirements of
19 paragraph (1).

20 In addition to the initial written notifications, the
21 Veterans Home must provide written notifications of any
22 updates on the incidence of the infectious disease and any
23 options that are available to the residents.

24 The Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Department of
25 Public Health must post the notification of the incidence of
26 the infectious disease, any updates, and any options that are

1 available to the residents on their websites as soon as
2 practicable after receiving the notification, but in no event
3 shall the notice be posted later than the end of the next
4 business day.

5 (c) If a Veterans Home administrator or a member of the
6 administrative staff is notified that an outbreak has
7 occurred, the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the
8 Department of Public Health shall conduct an onsite visit to
9 assess the status of the spread and determine if any
10 additional actions can be taken to lessen exposure to the
11 disease. The Department of Veterans' Affairs and Department of
12 Public Health are to conduct the visit as soon as practical,
13 but in no event shall the visit be delayed later than the end
14 of the next business day.

15 Upon conducting the site visit, the Department of
16 Veterans' Affairs shall post on its website:

17 (i) the findings of the onsite inspection;

18 (ii) the corrections needed to fix any disparities or
19 discrepancies in procedure found;

20 (iii) the date or dates of the next onsite inspection
21 to determine if the appropriate actions and visit
22 recommendations have been taken; and

23 (iv) any and all initial and follow-up reports from
24 the initial site visit.

25 (Source: P.A. 100-632, eff. 7-27-18.)